

# STATE OF MICHIGAN


## Commission on Spanish Speaking Affairs

### Resolution to Oppose Digital Redlining

- WHEREAS, the Hispanic community and other traditionally underserved communities are among the fastest growing populations of internet users and increasingly look to broadband and video services for access to meet their educational, business, and entertainment needs;
- WHEREAS, the Commission on Spanish Speaking Affairs has a tradition of adopting policies that prohibit redlining and other discriminatory business practices;
- WHEREAS, the Hispanic community and the economy benefit most when rules encourage investment and the build out of new networks in all communities rather than the privileged few;
- WHEREAS, the Commission on Spanish Speaking Affairs strongly supports the anti-discrimination provision of the 1984 Cable Act which prohibits telecommunications carriers from excluding or otherwise discriminating against consumers when it comes to the provision of video services in their service area;
- WHEREAS, while this bipartisan anti-discrimination provision has been effective in ensuring the robust build out of video and broadband networks, and in protecting against cherry picking by large carriers, the provision should be strengthened rather than weakened by federal and state policy makers;
- WHEREAS, the Commission on Spanish Speaking Affairs agrees that government policies should not pick winners and losers in the marketplace and thus the rules governing the build out of networks should apply to all providers equally;
- WHEREAS, the Congress and the States are considering revising the telecom laws to recognize changes in technology and the increasing state of competition in the marketplace;
- NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Commission of Spanish Speaking Affairs urges federal and state policymakers to adopt policies that encourage the broadest possible build out of broadband networks in to all parts of a community and region in order to stimulate economic development and maximize the accessibility of the broadband technology to close the Digital Divide;
- BE IT RESOLVED, that in enacting new legislation, federal and state policymakers should strengthen and not weaken the current anti-discrimination provisions in the 1984 Cable Act, and should ensure at a minimum that new entrants abide by the same standards that current cable providers live by; and
- BE IT RESOLVED, that in enacting new legislation, federal and state policy makers should preserve the rights of local governments to ensure that broadband services are available to everyone within the community; and
- BE IT RESOLVED, that any new legislation enacted by federal or state policymakers should prohibit redlining and require all new entrants in the video marketplace to offer their broadband and video services to all consumers within their service territory on a non-discriminatory basis.

Given under our hands on this thirteenth day of September, in the year of the Lord two thousand and six.

Commissioner Danette Duron-Willner  
Commissioner George Fierro  
Commissioner Ana Gabriel  
Commissioner Arminda Garcia  
Commissioner Benjamin Inquilla  
Commissioner Debra Rivera-Ehrmann  
Commissioner Sergio Paneque  
Commissioner Jose L. Reyna  
Commissioner Esmeralda Rodriguez  
Commissioner Henry Sanchez  
Commissioner Luisa Schumacher  
Commissioner Carmen Soto  
Commissioner Alicia Villarreal

  
Jose L. Reyna, Commission Chairperson

